



## PRE-HOSPITAL USE OF BLOOD COMPONENTS (RED CELLS AND PLASMA)

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**Resuscitation**journal homepage: [www.elsevier.com/locate/resuscitation](http://www.elsevier.com/locate/resuscitation)

### European Resuscitation Council Guidelines for Resuscitation 2015 Section 1. Executive summary



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### European Resuscitation Council Guidelines for Resuscitation 2015 Section 4. Cardiac arrest in special circumstances



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circumstances section Collaborators<sup>1</sup>

Pilot project in the Czech Republic



**RABBIT** 

RAPID ADMINISTRATION OF BLOOD BY HEMS IN TRAUMA



## Pre-hospital transfusion in HEMS



**2017: No. of patients treated by HEMS 578**

**HEMS primary missions 95,9 %**

81,9 % HEMS activations decided by medical dispatchers

**Severe trauma patients**

**373 patients (64,5 % HEMS missions)**

Multiple trauma 117

Traumatic brain injury (TBI) 24, spinal trauma 2, burns 39

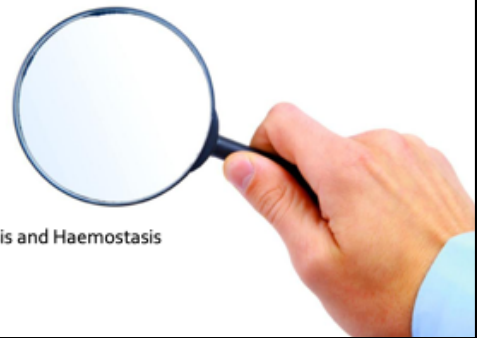
Trg+ patients 224

Trama centre as an admitting facility 240



## Content of the lecture

- **RABBIT trial protocol**
- **Experience after 5 months of pre-hospital use of blood components**
  - How accurate is HEMS in recognition of life-threatening haemorrhage#?
  - Aren't medical teams "playing" with blood too long?
  - How much waste does it all generate?
  - And some preliminary results from hospital



#Definition based on a consensual statement of the Czech Society for Thrombosis and Haemostasis



**Aetiology of traumatic cardiac arrest (TCA): 48% hypovolaemia (bleeding)**

Consensual statement of the Czech Society for Thrombosis and Haemostasis

- ztráta objemu krve během 24 hodin
- ztráta 50 % objemu krve během 3 hodin
- pokračující krevní ztráta přesahující 150 ml/hod
- krevní ztráta v lokalizaci vedoucí k ohrožení vitálních funkcí
- přítomnost klinických a laboratorních známek tkáňové hypoperfuze nebo poruchy orgánových funkcí v průběhu krvácení

**Absolutní indikace pro přednemocniční transfuzi byla navíc potvrzena pokračováním MTP v časně nemocniční fázi a potřebou tzv. damage control surgery (operační nebo radiointervenční výkon) okamžitě po přijetí**



## Treatment options



### **Krystaloidy: hemodiluce, koagulopatie, acidóza, vaskulární změny**

Erythrocyty a plazma aplikovaná optimálně od 30. minuty od úrazu zajistí objemovou náhradu, zvýší transportní kapacitu krve pro kyslík a částečnou substituci koagulačních faktorů (I = fibrinogen, II, VII, IX, X, XII)



## Background and rationale

- **Priorities of treatment to seriously injured patients**

- Field bleeding control
- Rapid transport to a trauma centre
- **Early administration of blood products**

American College of Surgeons–Committee on Trauma 2016  
The European guideline on management of major bleeding following trauma 4<sup>th</sup> Ed. 2016  
European Resuscitation Council Guidelines 2015

- **Risks of pre-hospital transfusion**

- Administration of blood to patients without bleeding
- Prolongation of pre-hospital time
- Unnecessary wasting

### Úzká spolupráce ZZS s traumacentra (TC) od vzniku regionálního traumasystému v roce 2004

- 1) strukturované předávání informace do TC,
- 2) aktivace masivního transfuzního protokolu (MTP) lékařem LZS z terénu již déle než 10 let



## History of pre-hospital transfusion



Dak To, Vietnam, 27 November 1967

**PHBP were used during the Vietnam War**

**Civilian prehospital PRBC administration reported in 1985, Oregon, USA**



## Pre-hospital red blood cells in trauma patients

### Pre-Trauma Center Red Blood Cell Transfusion Is Associated with Improved Early Outcomes in Air Medical Trauma Patients

Joshua B Brown, MD, Jason L Sperry, MD, MPH, FACS, Anisleidy Fombona, BS,  
Timothy R Billiar, MD, FACS, Andrew B Peitzman, MD, FACS, Francis X Guyette, MD, MPH

**BACKGROUND:** Hemorrhage is the leading cause of survivable death in trauma and resuscitation strategies including early RBC transfusion have reduced this. Pre-trauma center (PTC) RBC transfusion is growing and preliminary evidence suggests improved outcomes. The study objective was to evaluate the association of PTC RBC transfusion with outcomes in air medical trauma patients.

**STUDY DESIGN:** We conducted a retrospective cohort study of trauma patients transported by helicopter to a Level I trauma center from 2007 to 2012. Patients receiving PTC RBC transfusion were matched to control patients (receiving no PTC RBC transfusion during transport) in a 1:2 ratio using a propensity score based on prehospital variables. Conditional logistic regression and mixed-effects linear regression were used to determine the association of PTC RBC transfusion with outcomes. Subgroup analysis was performed for scene transport patients.

**RESULTS:** Two-hundred and forty treatment patients were matched to 480 control patients receiving no PTC RBC transfusion. Pre-trauma center RBC transfusion was associated with increased odds of 24-hour survival (adjusted odds ratio [AOR] = 4.92; 95% CI, 1.51–16.04;  $p = 0.01$ ), lower odds of shock (AOR = 0.28; 95% CI, 0.09–0.85;  $p = 0.03$ ), and lower 24-hour RBC requirement (Coefficient = -3.6 RBC units; 95% CI, -7.0 to -0.2;  $p = 0.04$ ). Among matched scene patients, PTC RBC was also associated with increased odds of 24-hour survival (AOR = 6.31; 95% CI, 1.88–21.14;  $p < 0.01$ ), lower odds of shock (AOR = 0.24; 95% CI, 0.07–0.80;  $p = 0.02$ ), and lower 24-hour RBC requirement (Coefficient = -4.5 RBC units; 95% CI, -8.3 to -0.7;  $p = 0.02$ ).

**CONCLUSIONS:** Pre-trauma center RBC was associated with an increased probability of 24-hour survival, decreased risk of shock, and lower 24-hour RBC requirement. Pre-trauma center RBC appears beneficial in severely injured air medical trauma patients and prospective study is warranted as PTC RBC transfusion becomes more readily available. (J Am Coll Surg 2015; 220:797–808. © 2015 by the American College of Surgeons)

J Am Coll Surg 2015

University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) Presbyterian Hospital, an urban Level I trauma center with the highest volume of trauma patients in the state of Pennsylvania.

STAT MedEvac is a large HEMS provider managed through the University of Pittsburgh's Center for Emergency Medicine, and accounts for approximately 40% of Pennsylvania's HEMS transports. During the study period, STAT MedEvac was staffed by a paramedic/nurse team and carried 2 U type O negative RBCs on each mission.



## Pre-hospital plasma in trauma patients

### Prehospital Plasma during Air Medical Transport in Trauma Patients at Risk for Hemorrhagic Shock

J.L. Sperry, F.X. Guyette, J.B. Brown, M.H. Yazer, D.J. Triulzi, B.J. Early-Young, P.W. Adams, B.J. Daley, R.S. Miller, B.G. Harbrecht, J.A. Claridge, H.A. Phelan, W.R. Witham, A.T. Putnam, T.M. Duane, L.H. Alarcon, C.W. Callaway, B.S. Zuckerbraun, M.D. Neal, M.R. Rosengart, R.M. Forsythe, T.R. Billiar, D.M. Yealy, A.B. Peitzman, and M.S. Zenati, for the PAMPer Study Group\*

- Mortality at 30 days: **plasma 23.2% vs. control 33.9 %** (p=0.03)
- Even small volume of plasma resulted in a robust mortality benefit

NEJM 26 July 2018

#### **PAMPer trail** (Prehospital Air Medical Plasma)

Pragmatic, multicenter, cluster-randomized, superiority trial at the University of Pittsburgh → air medical transport **from the scene OR from an outside referral ED (approx. 22 %)** to the trauma center

501 pts in haemorrhagic shock (SBP ≤70 mm Hg or 71–90 mm Hg plus HR ≥108 per min) → age **45 years**

n=230 plasma (treatment) vs. n=271 standard care (control)

**Transport times: plasma 42 min [IQR 34–53] vs. control 40 min [33–51]**

**Mortality at 30 days: plasma 23,2 % vs. control 33,9 % (p=0,03)**

Lower median prothrombin time ratio in plasma group (p<0,001)

Even small volume of plasma resulted in a robust mortality benefit

Reduction in bleeding or coagulopathy, inflammatory response or endothelial dysfunction of trauma

Differences in the volume of prehospital crystalloid solution and in the percentage of patients who received red-cell transfusion



## London, United Kingdom



London since March 2012



## Billund, Denmark





## Hradec Králové, Czech Republic





## Battery-powered blood warmer





## What are our expectations?

- **Lower 24-hour blood product requirements**
- Lower severity of trauma-induced coagulopathy (INR, ROTEM) and traumatic-haemorrhagic shock (lactic acid, organ failure)
- Confirmation of feasibility (blood products wastage < 1%)
- Confirmation of safety (adverse events, pre-hospital time)
- **Higher quality of care delivered by HEMS**



## Project administration

- **University Hospital ethics committee approval:** 201606 S13P
- **Agreement of all participating organisations and in-hospital departments**
  - Level I Trauma Centre at the University Hospital Hradec Králové
  - Dept. of Emergency Medicine, Transfusion Dept., Dept. of Anaesthesiology and Surgery
- **Approval from regional government responsible for EMS**
- **Trial registration at ClinicalTrials:** NCT03522636
- **State Institute for Drug Control approval on out-of-hospital use of blood**
  - Validation of “Credo S<sub>4</sub> EMT” storage boxes
  - Effect of vibrations during helicopter transport on RBCs quality
  - Process of defrosting and subsequent cooling of plasma to 4 °C
  - New SOPs and documentation (e.g. process of exchange between HEMS and hospital, blood products packing, temperature monitoring, transfusion protocols)



## Enrolement process

SOP for pre-hospital use of blood components

- Seriously injured patient
- Vital indication for transfusion by attending HEMS physician
- **Pre-hospital treatment: 1 unit of plasma → 1 unit of RBC → 1 g TXA**
- All other key treatment principles have to be assured!





**Cílový poskytovatel zdravotních služeb**

**Traumacentrum (TC) Fakultní nemocnice Hradec Králové**

**Pracovníci TC jsou o možnosti přednemocniční aplikace TP informováni a tento postup plně akceptují!**



## Inclusion criteria



### Physiological indications

- Absent radial pulse
- Hypotension with systolic blood pressure < 100 mmHg



## Inclusion criteria

### Anatomical indications

- Penetrating thoracic and/or abdominal injury with signs of bleeding
- Neck, groins or axillary injuries with signs of bleeding
- Clinical signs of active abdominal bleeding
- Unstable thoracic wall
- Unstable pelvis
- Open pelvic fracture
- 2 or more long-bone fractures (femur, humerus, tibia)
- 1 or more open femoral fractures (type OIII)
- Partial or complete amputation (proximal to knee or elbow) with signs of bleeding

Typ OIII: silně kontaminovaná rána, rozsáhlé zhmoždění měkkých tkání, nervové a cévní léze



## Inclusion criteria

### **Mechanism of injury\***

- Prolonged extrication (thorax, abdomen, pelvis)
- Fall > 6 m (verification by HEMS physician needed)
- Vehicle run over (thorax, abdomen, pelvis)
- Impact of a heavy object or animal (thorax, abdomen, pelvis)

\*Mechanism of injury (MOI) has to be associated with anatomical and/or physiological changes. Inclusion criteria for pre-hospital transfusion are different from trauma triage criteria selecting patients for primary transportation to a trauma centre.





## Exclusion criteria

### **Absolute contraindications**

- Traumatic cardiac arrest before administration of blood products<sup>+</sup>

<sup>+</sup>Sustained or intermittent ROSC after resuscitation for TCA is not exclusion

### **Relative contraindications**

- Isolated TBI without evidence of external haemorrhage or bleeding
- Admitting hospital other than University Hospital Hradec Králové
- Age < 18 years<sup>+</sup>

<sup>+</sup>Administration of pre-hospital transfusion in children can be decided as a "rescue strategy"



## Pre-hospital care | 5 months

- **180 trauma patients treated** (71.7% of all cases attended by HEMS)
  - 99.4% primary on-scene flights; 79.3% HEMS activations by medical dispatchers
- **Pre-hospital transfusion**
  - N=16 | male sex 56.3% | age 44.2 ± 18.6 | NACA score 5.1 ± 0.6
  - Non-adherence to study protocol: 1 of 16
- **Ability to predict massive haemorrhage by HEMS**
  - Recognition of life-threatening haemorrhage 100% (15 of 15)
  - MTP continued in a trauma centre 86.7% (13 of 15)
  - Immediate damage control surgery 73.3% (11 of 15)

DOPLNIT POČET ZÁSAHŮ ZA ŘÍJEN 2018 A ZMĚNIT PROCENTA

1.6.–30.9.2018: n=16 (8,9 % ošetřených traumat)

**Hypotenze s nehmatným pulzem na radiální tepně se vyskytovala u všech pacientů (n=15)**

251 ošetřených pacientů za 4 měsíce, z toho 180 úrazů

Poslední podané transfuze: 3.9.2018 a 10.11.2018 (stav k 13.11.2018)

**Nedodržení protokolu: 1 ze 16** (motocyklista po čelním střetu s osobním autem s KCP a otevřenými zlomeninami obou předloktí)



## Pre-hospital care | 5 months

- **Pre-hospital time**

- **HEMS activation to hand-over at trauma centre: 57.3 ± 11.6 min**

- Hradec Králové Region (n=5): 53.6 min | Pardubice Region (n=8): 60.0 min  
Liberec Region (n=1): 67.0 min | Central Bohemian Region (n=1): 45.0 min

- **Emergency call receipt to hand-over at trauma centre: 74.3 ± 28.5 min**

- Hradec Králové Region (n=5): 55.4 min | Pardubice Region (n=8): 84.5 min  
Liberec Region (n=1): 111.0 min | Central Bohemian Region (n=1): 51.0 min

- **Waste of blood products**

- **0.4% (1 of 276 units)**

- No waste caused by inappropriate storage or hemolysis

- Helicopter interior temperatures (20-27 Aug 2018): **12.3–38.6 °C (54.1–101.5 °F)**

DOPLNIT POČET VYDANÝCH JEDNOTEK ZA MĚSÍC ŘÍJEN 2018 A ZMĚNIT PROCENTA ZNEHODNOCENÝCH TP



## Primary outcome | transfusion vs. control

| Preliminary results after 1 month                       | 2017        | 2018             |
|---------------------------------------------------------|-------------|------------------|
| N                                                       | 6           | 6                |
| Injury Severity Score (ISS)                             | 31          | 44               |
| Fibrinogen on arrival at ED (g/l)                       | 2.7         | 2.8              |
| Lactic acid concentration on arrival at ED (mmol/l)     | 6.3         | 4.3              |
| Pre-hospital transfusion units                          | 0           | Plasma 6   RBC 6 |
| <b>Crystalloids infused in the field and at ED (ml)</b> | <b>1850</b> | <b>1083</b>      |
| <b>Colloids infused in the field and at ED (ml)</b>     | <b>0</b>    | <b>0</b>         |
| <b>Red blood cell units needed within 24 h</b>          | <b>8.7</b>  | <b>7.2</b>       |
| <b>Plasma units needed within 24 h</b>                  | <b>8.3</b>  | <b>7.5</b>       |

Berková J, Kočí J, Řeháček V, Seneta L, Truhlář A. Aplikace transfuzních přípravků v přednemocniční péči – první zkušenosti cílového pracoviště  
Presented at the conference XX. Dostálův dny urgentní medicíny 2018

Medián věku byl v roce 2017 59,9 roku (v rozmezí 39-74 let), v roce 2018 53,7.

Ve sledovaných laboratorních parametrech nebyl pozorován rozdíl mezi průměrnými hodnotami fibrinogenu, ani laktátu.

Vstupní SOFA (sequential organ failure assessment) skóre se meziročně nelišilo.

V každé skupině zemřel během prvních 30 dnů od přijetí 1 pacient.

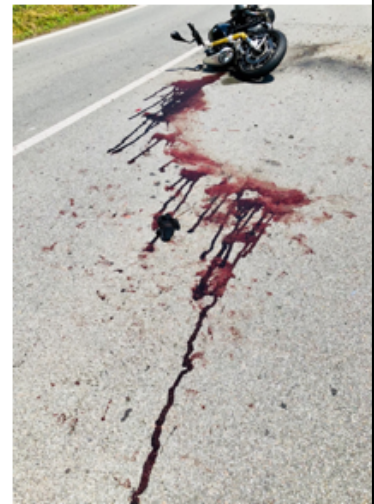
**U všech pacientů v obou skupinách byl aktivován masivní transfuzní protokol a následovala léčba v souladu s postupy tzv. damage control surgery (urgentní operační nebo radiointervenční výkon).** Na OUM bylo podáno průměrně o 500ml krystaloidů méně, žádný koloid. MAP se nelišil, vazopresorickou podporu měli v obou skupinách 2 ze 6 pacientů.

**Průměrné množství transfuzních přípravků podaných během prvních 24 hodin bylo ve skupině 2018 nižší o 1 transfuzní jednotku (TU) erytrocytů, 1 TU plazmy a 0,5 terapeutické dávky trombocytů.**



## Summary


- Pre-hospital transfusion has become routine element of trauma care provided by HEMS
- HEMS personnel was able to recognize life-threatening haemorrhage in all cases; 87% patients treated with blood required MTP
- **Quality assurance for every single case needed!**
- **More survivors? At least some chance...**



Přednemocniční aplikace transfuzních přípravků s následným MTP v traumacentru vedla ke snížení celkového množství krystaloidních roztoků a počtu transfuzních přípravků podaných v prvních 24 hodinách od úrazu. Zkušenosti z úvodního měsíce pilotního projektu RABBIT podporují předpoklad zlepšení kvality péče o závažně poraněné pacienty, což umožňuje další používání zavedeného protokolu beze změn.  
**Quality assurance and feedback for every single case needed!**



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